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Prior, Edward Gawler, 1853-195
Election address. --



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VICTORIA, B. C.

ELECTION ADDRESS



LIEUT.-COL. THE HON. E. G. PRIOR

MINISTER OF MINES

THE GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE

324.9711

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REFERENCE

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Election Address.

Victoria, B. C., March 3, 1902.

Gentlemen,—I beg to inform you that I am a candidate at the provincial election to be held on the 10th instant to fill the vacancy in the city representation caused by the resignation of Mr. Turner. I have been sworn in by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor as Minister of Mines in the present government. I took this step because the Premier and his colleagues proved to me beyond all doubt that they had arranged a contract with Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann to continue their great transcontinental railway, the Canadian Northern, from the eastern boundary of British Columbia across the province to Bute Inlet, thence by ferry to Vancouver Island, and then by rail down the Island to Victoria, thus making our fair city the Pacific terminus of their splendid railway system. This contract has been signed by Mackenzie & Mann and is now on the way out here in the hands of Mr. N. Greenshields, K. C., the well-known Montreal lawyer. I have exam-

ined a copy of the contract carefully as a business man, and it must, in my humble opinion, meet with the hearty approval of all well wishers of this city. A bill granting the necessary aid to this road will be brought down to the House, and the government assured me that they had pledges of support sufficient to carry it. I have not the slightest doubt but what we shall see this work commenced forthwith, as the contract is a bona fide contract with the most responsible railway builders in Canada. I may say that the contract stipulates that construction shall be commenced on this coast and carried eastward, thus giving British Columbia merchants and others the benefit of such expenditure. I believed it to be my duty to aid in every way I possibly could the carrying out of this great enterprise, which means so much to British Columbia, and to Victoria in particular, and I trust that you will see fit to endorse my action by giving me your influence and support during this election campaign. I have represented this city now for fifteen years, and can confidently appeal to you as to whether I have been derelict in my duties or not. In the action

I have now taken I am actuated solely by a strong desire to bring this city to the position she should occupy and undoubtedly will occupy so soon as she gets direct railway communication with the interior, the Great Northwest and the Eastern provinces by a competing line with the C. P. R. To elect an opponent of the government might stop any further action in regard to this contract for many months, and this province would be put back another year, whilst politicians squabbled as to who should hold the reins of power and who should get the portfolios. Let us get down to business and do something that will benefit the province and ourselves. This railway is, in my opinion, Victoria's salvation. Stop this contract and we may never get such a chance again. If elected, I shall do all in my power to forward the construction, not only of the Canadian Northern Railway, but also of the Coast-Kootenay Railway, the Cariboo & Atlin Railway, and the

Comox & Cape Scott Rail as we cannot expect a proper development of our magnificent natural resources until the country is opened up by competitive railroads. I shall also strongly urge the encouragement by bonus of the ship-building industry, as it is of vital importance to so many trades, especially the lumber business. I have not one word to say against the character or well-known ability of my opponent, but I think that already there are enough lawyers in the House, and that the interests of this province and this city can be equally as well, if not better, looked after by an ordinary merchant. As the time before election day is short, I am afraid I cannot see all electors personally, but I will call on as many as I can.

Again respectfully asking for your vote and influence,

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

E. G. PRIOR.

ELECTORS!

WHICH WILL BE YOUR CHOICE?

A BUSINESS GOVERNMENT

—OR—

A LAWYERS' GOVERNMENT

COMPARE THE TWO

DUNSMUIR GOVERNMENT

JAS. DUNSMUIR, mine owner.

W. C. WELLS, lumber merchant.

J. D. PRENTICE, stockman.

D. M. EBERTS, lawyer.

E. G. PRIOR, hardware merchant.

LAWYERS' GOVERNMENT

RICHARD McBRIDE, lawyer.

H. D. HELMCKEN, “

A. E. McPHILLIPS, “

DENNY MURPHY, “

E. V. BODWELL, “

CHOOSE FOR YOURSELF

